

CASE HISTORY

St Ivel Foods, Minsterley.
New glycol storage facility.

ANALYSIS

Client: St Ivel Foods

Project: Design, manufacture, installation and commissioning of new 75m³ GRP cylindrical storage tank, access platforms, associated pipework and in-line equipment



PRODUCTION DOWNTIME MINIMISED BY ARDETH VALUE ENGINEERING AND FAST-TRACK PROJECT MANAGEMENT EXPERTISE

Plant closed for just 4 hours instead of 3-5 days

The St Ivel factory in Minsterley is a chilled desserts manufacturing business, supplying leading supermarket groups in the UK with retailer branded and own label desserts. The Ardeth Group were awarded the contract to supply and manufacture a new glycol storage tank and associated equipment with pipework to replace an existing tank, supplying chilled water for site process cooling applications.

Tendering alongside extremely stiff competition from nationally-recognised refrigeration companies, Ardeth won the contract on the strength of the company's experience of working on live production facilities demanding minimum downtime and fast-track project management.

Where the competition requested shut-down periods of between three and five days to remove the existing storage tank and install its replacement, Ardeth devised an approach that incurred a shut-down period of just four hours.

Innovative Ardeth thinking

The mechanics of the project dictated that the installation of the new storage tank should take place whilst the existing facility remained in full production. Hot tapping and freezing operations were carried out on existing live services to allow all break-in works to be completed without disruption to on-going factory operations. This meant that the new tank could be positioned adjacent to the existing tank and all interconnecting pipework and equipment installed, insulated and tested prior to going live. With the Ardeth approach, a plant shut-down period of just four hours was programmed into the factory production schedule. During this period, the existing glycol was decanted from the system and replaced with a new premium mixture with no loss suffered to the planned production.

The existing tank is still in position and, after cleaning, is being used for extra cold liquor storage.

Project outcome

The entire project was completed within budget and two weeks early.



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